

LOG OF MEETING

21 APR 1994

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DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standard
(MCHSS) Committee : Heat Tape Outlets under Manufactured Homes.

DATE OF MEETING: April 7-8, 93 PLACE: Key Bridge Marriott, Rosslyn, VA

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Nicholas Mogan, ESEE *for N/M*

DATE OF ENTRY: 4/19/94

COMMISSION ATTENDEE:
Nicholas Mogan, ESEE

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:
See attached MHI roster.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This meeting was convened to determine the specific recommendations to be made to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, this year, to change their regulations governing the construction of manufactured homes. The MCHSS Committee performs a continuous monitoring and review of these HUD regulations, on a three-year cycle.

This year, the committee considered and debated a change that would require ground-fault protection of the electrical outlet on the bottom of manufactured homes. This outlet is dedicated to supplying electric power to heat tapes that prevent the exposed water pipe from freezing. At present, the HUD regulation forbids ground-fault protection of this outlet, because of concern that a "false trip" of a GFCI would be unnoticed and facilitate a freeze-up of the water supply.

Three documents were presented to the MCHSS Committee:

- 1) Report on the Heat Tape Study Contract CPSC; March 1994; Mogan, N.
- 2) Heat Tape Safety Measures Study; Underwriters Laboratories; December 1993; Hallerburg, D.A.; Thomas, Sebastian; LeMieux, Daniel.
- 3) Letter; Paul Duks, Underwriters Laboratories, to Dennis McCoskrie, CPSC, "Performance Requirements for Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters", March 21, 1994.

The CPSC representative commented on the significance of these documents and the opportunity to reduce heat tape fires that is presented by the recommended change in the HUD manufactured home regulations. In particular, the committee concluded that the ground-fault protection is needed to complete a safety system for water- pipe heat tapes.

The MCHSS committee voted unanimously to accept the proposal requiring ground-fault protection. The wording of the proposal is:

... "The manufacturer shall provide:

...(i) Written installation instructions for the method(s) required for compliance to this section; (ii) a statement in its installation instructions that if pipe heating cable is used it shall be *listed*; (iii) a receptacle outlet for the use of a pipe heating cable located on the underside of the manufactured home within 2 feet of the water supply inlet. *The receptacle outlet provided shall be placed on a branch circuit which is protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter. The receptacle outlet shall be labeled as shown on figure...*"

The label referred to above should read:

"Pipe heating cable receptacle. Use only listed cable."

The above proposal will go out for public comments during the summer, and final decision will be made on the next MHCSS meeting in October, 1994.

MHCSS CONSENSUS COMMITTEE

April 8, 1994, 8:00 a.m. - noon
Georgetown Junior Ballroom

Key Bridge Marriott
Rosslyn, Virginia

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

NAME	COMPANY	TELEPHONE NUMBER
CAROL MEEKS	UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA	(706) 542-4857
FRANK WALTER	MHI	(703) 413-9536
NICK NIKPOURFARD	MHI	(703) 413-9536
Cheryl Everett	MHI	(703) 413-6620
RICHARD L. WAGGONER	ALUMAX	909-928-4506
Norris Jones	L-Steel Custom Homes Inc.	704-483-5511
MICHAEL L. ZIEMAN	RADCO	310-272-7231
MARY B. Bowman	ARKANSAS	501-324-9032
Vincent J. Wanjek	Electrowood Ent	909-926-8825
MIKE SLIPKA	PFS	608-221-3361
JOHN EVANS	PHILIPS PRODS	909 987 4694
ED BRYANT	REDMAN	214-353-3600
JIM McCollum	McCullum Associates Inc.	301-434-1430
JOHN FABIAN	ULI	708-272-8800
Phil BERGELT	SPIRAL ENT	407 957 2292
Patrick Lewis	State of Oregon	503-373-1266
CHUCK PITCHER	U.S. Dept of Commerce	202-482-0132
BIM GUST	OLKWOOD HOMES	910-855-2539
CURTIS McIVER	VIRGINIA SAA	804-371-7160
John Sims	Champion Homes	(810) 340-7718
Steve Jamieson	NC MHI	919-872-2740
TOM ARNOLD	TRA	(219)-264-0745
MEL FATH	NEW DURHAM ESTATES	219-785-2576
George Carey	Foremost Inc Co	616-956-2883
Nasser Tahmassebi	Commodore	219-533-7100

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